

MARCH

INSIDE  
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624 WASHINGTON AVE  
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INSIDE  
Chester Drenners  
visits Elba  
Elementary

INSIDE  
Pitcher Stephanie  
Baxley leads Elba  
Lady Tiger  
softball team

# The Elba Clipper

Volume 108, Number 38

50 Cents

Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 3, 2005

1 Section, 14 Pages

## During Elba City Council meeting

### Resolution approved allowing construction of playground on old Elba High property

by Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba City Council had good news for Greg Sowell Monday night. The Marilyn Street resident addressed the council with a request for sewage lines to be extended into the subdivision.

Mayor James Grimes told him that just last week the City of Elba applied for a CDBG grant to install sewage lines in that area and one other section of town. He added that it would be 2006 before the funds are available, but it was in the works.

Acting police Chief Freddie Hanchey reported to the council that everything is running as smoothly as can be expected.

The council approved two resolutions. The first was an agreement to allow a playground/park complex to be built on the old Elba High School property. The facility is planned for the site of the old auditorium and boiler room, located on Collier Street. Plans are being drawn by a New York design firm and fund raising is underway by a group of private citizens.

The second resolution was a routine agreement relating to the \$1.5 million bond the city expects to be sold within the next few weeks.

Bids were reviewed on the purchase of a new trash truck and loader. Four bids had been received. Three were submitted according to specifications but the fourth (and lowest bid) didn't offer the specified loader. The council accepted the bid of

Freightliner of Southern Alabama, Dothan, at \$83,350.00. Specifications call

for a white vehicle with a Caterpillar 210 HP diesel engine, a 3000 RDS Allison 6-speed transmission and equipped with an 18 foot Lightning Loader.

City Clerk Wayne Gratham noted the gates being installed in several places on the levee; lights being added to the levee walking trail and that the flood prevention pumps should be installed behind the old high school within the next 45 days.

He added that the city will soon begin tearing down the old Jr High wing of the old school plus the house behind the motel and two houses on 87 North, just across the levee.

Grimes officially reported

the resignation of Police Chief R. W. Whitworth. He added that he and the city clerk had

met separately with both Lt. Freddie Hanchey and Lt. John Nelson. Each had been asked for the "good and the bad" about the department. He said their comments would be taken into consideration as he reviews the police department SOP and recommends modifications to the city council.

GREG SOWELL

Grimes called a workshop for Monday March 7th at 5:30 p.m.

The city will begin advertising for a new police chief this week, according to the mayor. He added that his original plan for advertising first just within the department is not legal. Therefore the city will be taking applications, nationwide, until March 18th.



**BUILDING A PLAYGROUND...**A crowd of interested citizens gathered at Elba Elementary School Tuesday night, March 1, to hear a presentation for building a playground/park complex in Elba. Although the playground project has been underway for several months, it took a giant step forward Tuesday when John Dean, a representative of Leathers and Associates of Ithaca, N.Y., came to town to design an idea for the complex. Dean spent a majority of the day getting ideas from the best possible source - the children of Elba. After interviewing about 400 children during the day, he presented his design during a meeting Tuesday night. The playground is going to be built on the property of the old Elba High School in downtown Elba and will use the facade of the old building as its entrance. Dean said it will be designed strictly based on suggestions by the local children. Shown above looking at the design are Kristin Gunnells, her daughter Emma, and Betsy Martin.

### Coffee County Commission awards bid for lawn care at courthouses

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The Coffee County Commission awarded the bid Monday, Feb. 28, for lawn care at the Elba and Enterprise courthouses after tabling the issue during the previous February

meeting.

During the previous meeting, commissioners had questions regarding the bid submitted by Southern Cross of New Brockton. The bid was quite a bit lower than other bids submitted, and commissioners were not familiar with the company.

A representative of the company was present for Monday's meeting, and he said he was going to need to withdraw his bid. He apologized to commissioners and said he made an error with the bid.

## NOTICE

The Elba Clipper begins this week featuring the second serial story written by author Linda M. Hodge.

The fictional work, entitled "The Assignment", will run for seven weeks. The story focuses on a young teacher, Jess Abbott, as tries to inspire her students by telling a story from her own past.

Chapter One of "The Assignment" is located on Page 7 in this week's edition of The Elba Clipper.

The next low bidder was Clark's Lawn Care at \$3,500 for the Elba courthouse and \$5,600 for the Enterprise courthouse. Jimmy Clark also was present at the meeting, and he assured commissioners he would do the work specified in the bid.

"If you've got any problems, come to me," Clark said.

Stan Windham, coordinator of the county's extension service, addressed commissioners regarding an Advisory Meeting held in January. He said 75 people were invited to the meeting, and he had hoped 25 would attend. However, he was pleasantly surprised to have more than 50 people attend the meeting.

Windham said the four major topics discussed at the meeting included Agriculture,

Community Development, Family Programs and the 4-H Program. He said the meeting proved to be very informative, and he was very proud of the outcome.

While addressing commissioners, Windham also reminded them of the upcoming Special Olympics on April 15 and the Senior Games on April 21. He asked commissioners to plan to help out with these programs if at all possible.

John Tallas, Coffee County EMA director, also addressed commissioners during Monday's meeting, and he brought good news regarding Homeland Security grants.

Tallas said the county recently received news that it was awarded a grant in the amount of \$131,755.51 for communica-

tions equipment.

He also mentioned other grand funds he hopes to see come to Coffee County for other phases of the homeland security project.

"When all the dust settles, we expect to see around \$200,000 for homeland security," Tallas said.

In regards to another matter tabled from the Feb. 14th commission meeting, commissioners voted Monday to reject an application from Josh Lawson to conduct an independent wrestling event at the farm center.

Lawson addressed commissioners at the Feb. 14th meeting asking them to allow his organi-

Please See CCC, Page 14

### Lion's Club pancake breakfast set for Saturday in Elba

by Linda Hodge, Editor

The smell of pancakes and sausage will fill the air Saturday morning, March 5, in downtown Elba as the Elba Lions Club presents its annual Pancake Breakfast.

The breakfast will be held at the Elba Senior Citizens Center from 6-10 a.m. and serves as the club's annual fund raising event.

The pancake breakfast allows the Elba Lions Club to support projects to help people and organizations.

In the past, the pancake breakfast has allowed the Elba Lions Club to assist the Alabama Sight Conservation, Camp Seale Harris, Southeast Leader Dog School, American Diabetes Association, Elba D.A.R.E. Program, Elba Boy Scout Troop 37, as well as, local sight programs.

Lions Club International long ago established its principal pur-

pose as to support programs to prevent blindness and to aid people in surgical care for eye diseases.

Monies raised by the Elba Lions Club also help provide eye exams/glasses for several local residents.

Therefore, all Elba residents are encouraged to attend Saturday's annual Lions Club Pancake Breakfast and help the club members "make Elba a better place to live."

Tickets are being sold now but can be purchased at the door Saturday morning.



**SERVICE WITH A SMILE** Elba Lion Club member Gene Eastburn will be among those serving pancakes and sausage Saturday morning, March 5, during the club's annual fund raising event. The pancake breakfast allows the Elba Lions Club to support projects to help many people and organizations.



Miss Gale Olson, a junior at Elba High School, served as a page in the Alabama House of Representatives sponsored by Representative Terry Spicer, D-Elba.

## Area Happenings

**THE COFFEE COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION** will meet Thursday, March 3 (TONIGHT), at 7 p.m. at the central office in Elba.

**THE MISS ELBA PAGEANTS** will be held Saturday, March 5, at the Elba High School auditorium beginning at 6 p.m. Age divisions include Future Little Miss Elba (ages 4-5), Little Miss Elba (first graders), Junior Miss Elba (7th-10th graders), and Miss Elba (ages 17-21).

**ENTRY DEADLINE FOR THE MISS ZION CHAPEL PAGEANTS** will be Monday, March 7. Entry forms may be turned in to Mrs. Cobb, Miss Juaight or Mrs. Boswell as the Zion Chapel Schools, or the form may be dropped off at Jack in a Box Daycare. There is an entry fee for each category. Also, the Junior Miss Zion Chapel category is open to girls in grades 7th-10th, ages 13-16. For more information, contact Jennifer at 897-2287. The pageants are sponsored by Albama International Inc. of Jack, Ala and will be held Saturday, April 9, at 6 p.m. at the 2C auditorium.

**THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA BREEKERS ASSOCIATION** will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, March 10, at the Coffee County Farm Center. For more information call Elizabeth Whitaker at 334-494-2077 or Charles Jester at 334-308-2724.



## EDITORIAL

## Children must be education budget's priority

Editorial by  
Governor Bob Riley

Last month we read about two Colorado teenagers (18 and 19) who wanted to do good things for neighbors one evening rather than going to a dance as many of their friends would be doing. The girls baked cookies and automatically delivered them around the neighborhood. Incredibly, it cost them \$900 at one house and it might not be over yet. One 49-year-old neighbor they took cookies to was terrified when her doorman rang that night. Repeatedly the girls offered to pay her medical bills, but that was enough. After the court case, the matter continued to brew. Parents of at least one of the girls reportedly had to get a restraining order in an effort to stop the husband of the woman who sued from repeatedly calling and harassing the cookie giver's family. The girls have said none of this will stop them from trying to "do good."

Attorney General Terry King has warned consumers to be wary of solicitors that take money and promise to help people get jobs with the Hyundai plant coming to Montgomery. Unscrupulous people have claimed to be able to provide job seekers with an advantage in being hired for a fee. King asked that people notify his Office of Consumer Affairs if they have paid such fees or if they are approached with such an offer. Sounds like a good idea to us.

This week heralds the start of another serialized story in *The Elba Clipper*. After the many positive responses to her Christmas story last fall, Edna Linda Hodge has penned another original story. This one, "The Assignment," will begin this week and run for seven weeks. The story has a school teacher - or something in it.

Again this year there is a bill in the Alabama legislature to legalize more bingo games. The last time around the type for more gambling was to raise money for school books. That failed and this year the buzz is that the profits will help pay our Medicare. Adding insult to injury was the closing comment in a news release received to Monday afternoon. It read, "Let's work together to stop the expansion of gambling in Alabama and the tax gambling we already have." Rereading the news release finds claims that more than a dozen bingo operations are about to open (legally) in Macon and Greene counties. The current bill will limit (and tax) bingo to the four race tracks in Alabama. Of course that adds the Birmingham and Mobile race tracks to the legalized electronic bingo club. As noted, the new bill will add a state tax (15%) to the two existing bingo parlor - as well as the two new sites. It will also limit bingo to these four groups of profit makers - oops we mean to these four sites. The claim by the bill's sponsor is that this 15% will generate \$75 million. The 15% is on funds AFTER payouts to players. You figure it, that means the four race tracks will be permanently taking something like \$500 million a year from the pockets of bingo players! Hey, we want one of those money machines! Why must we add more bingo sites to enable us to tax the two already operating?

We have been closely following the efforts to pass an improved "Open Meetings Law" in Alabama. Actually the bill was originally written by the Alabama Press Association lawyers. Several other groups have gotten behind the bill, including the Attorney General, County Commissioners, Association of School Boards, League of Municipalities, Hospital Association, etc. The list goes on and on. The bill passed the Alabama Senate without a negative vote. Now it is awaiting a House vote. It is a bit scary to realize that a stronger opening is being made for everyone's support. However, we were in meetings and on committee calls with many of those supporters during early discussions on the proposed new law and they really support the changes. It clears up a lot of confusing parts of the existing "early 1900s" law and that helps everyone.

## Elba Police Report

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, Feb. 21, 2005, investigated the following incidents: one leaving the scene of an accident, three for theft of property, two for burglary, one harassment, two for manufacturing, three for possession of a controlled substance, two for domestic violence, and one assault.

The following arrests were made: one for failure to appear, two for domestic violence, two for manufacturing and three for possession of a controlled substance.

Traffic citations issued during the week were as follows: one for no insurance, one for running a stop sign, one for no proof of insurance, one for driving with a suspended driver's license and one for not wearing a seat belt.

Daily activity highlights for the week were as follows:  
MONDAY, FEB. 21 - River stage 7.97 feet (7.30 a.m.). Accident reported on Roosevelt Dr. (13.19 p.m.).

TUESDAY, FEB. 22 - Wreck reported at the intersection of Taylor Mill Road and Highland

Dr. (7.28 a.m.). Coffee County EMS dispatched to 7637 County Rd. 105 (8.17 a.m.). Elba Fire Department dispatched to a grass fire across from Hickman at Dunham (2.50 p.m.).

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23 - Routine activity.

THURSDAY, FEB. 24 - Elba Fire Department dispatched to a possible fire at the Big/Little West on Hickman Ave. (8.36 p.m.).

FRIDAY, FEB. 25 - Wreck reported at the high school parking lot (7.22 a.m.). River stage 7.97 feet (7.22 a.m.). Domestic disturbance reported at 339 Brunson Circle (8.55 a.m.). Two-vehicle wreck reported on Hwy. 84 E. (2.58 p.m.).

SATURDAY, FEB. 26 - River stage 7.97 feet (8.12 a.m.). Two-vehicle wreck reported on N. Claxton Ave. next to the Alltel store (1.13 p.m.). Domestic disturbance - (in progress) reported at Lot 24 of Powell Circle (7.42 p.m.).

SUNDAY, FEB. 27 - Powder reported at 20404 Hwy. 87 (1.24 a.m.). Routine activity.

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Heddy J. Cox - BUSINESS MANAGER

SUBSCRIPTION RATES  
Coffee County & Surrounding Counties - \$19 per year  
6 Months - \$10, including city & state tax  
Alabama Counties - \$21 per year - including tax  
6 months - \$11  
Outside Alabama - \$24 per year - 6 months - \$13

ments of my budget, you'd think education funding was being cut or "diverted" to some other purpose.

They are being absolutely dishonest. Every dollar of my education budget goes to education and to helping our children learn. The heads of state agencies appeared before a Senate committee this week and confirmed that.

Yet the leaders in the Legislature and the budget chairman refuse to even consider the facts about the education budget. I presented their denial of an open and honest debate is a disservice to the people of Alabama and especially to Alabama's children.

My budget strategy is to commit more money into the classroom by putting more money into the Alabama history. Total education spending will increase from \$4.6 billion to \$5.2 billion. At this level, all requests made by the K-12 system will be fully funded.

That means the budget provides the classroom resources necessary to fund the Alabama Math, Science and Technology Initiative. It means the budget fully funds teacher testing, student testing and distance learning. It means the budget fully funds textbook purchases, and it means the budget fully funds education technology, libraries and teacher training. My budget also provides a well deserved and affordable teacher pay raise of four percent.

This is the first time ever a governor's budget fully funds all these education requests. Yet if you listened to oppo-

his letter, Hubert tells legislators that "school employees hope they will be your first concern."

I disagree. I believe Alabama's children should be and must be our first concern today, tomorrow and always. But they don't have a powerful lobbyist and a big war chest like Paul Hubert does. All they have is their parents and the people of Alabama and the hope that we will fight for them.

The debate going on in Montgomery right now over the education budget is a defining moment for Alabama. There is no "raid" on education, under

## NRCS provides funding for limited resource producers through EOIP

The USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) will provide funding through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) to help farmers with limited resources develop and maintain economic viability in their farming operation.

USDA defines a limited resource producer as one with direct or indirect gross farm sales of less than \$102,400 in each of the previous two years.

Alabama's should ask themselves why legislative leaders continue to ignore the facts about the education budget and refuse to even debate it. I think we all know why: too many in the Legislature listen only to Paul Hubert, the head of the school employees' union. Hubert's job is to make sure our children receive the education funding they need. His job is to make sure his union members get the money they want for a bigger pay raise.

Hubert recently wrote all legislators and presented his idea for an education budget. Realizing that education revenue can't grow fast enough to pay for his 7% raise in future years, Hubert's proposal cost \$100 million from classrooms and carries it over to next year's budget.

Where are our priorities? In

The City of Elba, Alabama, is now accepting applications for position of Police Chief.

## MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- A. Possession of a college degree, preferably in criminal justice, supplemented by courses in police administration and scientific methods of crime detection.
- B. Ten years of progressively responsible experience in law enforcement. The five most current years must be in position of increasing responsibility in management.
- C. Possession of a valid Alabama driver's license with a clear MVR.
- D. The applicant must meet the minimum standards for law enforcement officers as established by Alabama Law (State of Alabama Act No. 1981, H. 732, 1972 regular session).
- E. An employee in this position is subject to random drug testing.

PAY RANGE: \$32,000.00 TO \$42,000.00 per year.

## BENEFITS:

- 1. Local Government Health Insurance Plan administered by Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Alabama.
- 2. Participation in State Retirement.
- 3. Vacation and Sick Leave.

## APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:

Applications can be obtained at the Elba City Hall, 200 Buford Street, Elba, Alabama between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

## CLOSING DATE:

Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on the 18th day of March, 2005.

THE CITY OF ELBA IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

CALL CRIMESTOPPERS @ 897-3881 TO REPORT A CRIME REMAIN ANONYMOUS

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Dear Mr. Ferrin:

I recently went to Evergreen Cemetery to visit the grave of my loved one. As I was driving away, I was preoccupied with my thoughts. I looked up to see the most beautiful sight; a large American flag flying in the breeze. I decided to investigate to see if any markers were around it to specify who was responsible for this beautiful scene. There were two large flood lights to illuminate it at night but no marker to let me know who had provided this memorial. This is a memorial to me. It represents all our country stands for and honors those now

resting here who fought for those freedoms which we sometimes take for granted. One of the most beautiful sights to me is a huge American flag blowing in the breeze. It reminds me of all the good things my country stands for. I know I cannot really express my feelings in print, but I wanted to express my heartfelt appreciation to those responsible.

I think it is a most fitting and beautiful sight. It adds even more beauty to our cemetery. Again my grateful appreciation to those responsible. Sincerely, Sherry Church

Dear Editor,

Recently our house burned and we lost everything. We would like to thank everyone for the help and kindness shown us. We would like to express a special thanks to the firemen and the three fire departments that helped, the Coffee County EMS, Dr. Dyess and his staff, Mt. Vernon Assembly of God Church, and Newbia Baptist Church. Never take your life for granted. Mike & Brenda Nelson

EXPRESS YOUR VIEWS WRITE A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

## Insurance company pays out more than \$186 million to policy holders for hurricane-related damages

More than five months following the landfall of Hurricane Ivan, insurance claims are still being reported by snowbirds returning to Alabama for the first time since the storm hit.

Despite new claims trickling in State Farm, the state's largest insurer of cars and homes, has closed more than 94 percent of the nearly 40,000 claims reported to the company in Alabama. As a result of those claims, State Farm has paid out more than \$186 million to Alabama policyholders for hurricane-related damage.

"We continue to receive new claims from Hurricane Ivan. Many people who spend their winters on the coast have returned and continue to report damage to their property. Dozens of our dedicated claims adjusters have been on site since September handling claims and continue to do so," says Catastrophe Team Manager Richard Serviss. State Farm policyholders are encouraged to report damage from Hurricane Ivan to their State Farm agent by calling 1-800-SF-CLAIM (800-732-5246).

Hurricane Ivan has proven to be the costliest storm in Alabama's recent history. State Farm paid out \$50,350,000 to Alabama customers on nearly

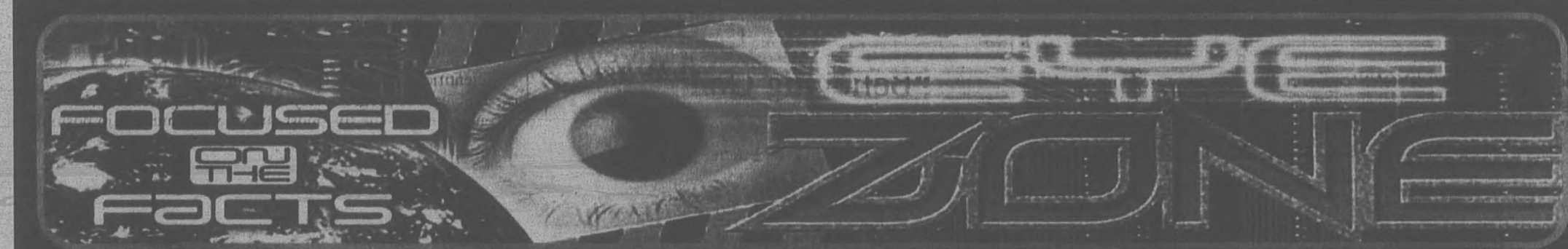
the largest insurer of cars and homes in Alabama. State Farm's 17,000 agents and 76,000 employees serve nearly 73 million auto, fire, life and health policies in the United States and Canada. State Farm is ranked No. 18 on the Fortune 500 list of largest companies. For more information, please visit statefarm.com.

## EOCC News

\*\*\*Challenge your creativity with Pottery Shoppe! This special interest course at Enterprise-Ozark Community College's Enterprise Campus is designed for adults who have had no experience with clay as well as for those who have worked with clay in the past. Each student will complete at least one piece of hand-built pottery and must purchase clay and tools for \$20 at the first session. Dothan pottery master David Plunkett will be teaching this course which will be held on Mondays, 5:30-7:30 p.m., March 14 - April 25 (excluding March 28). The registration deadline is March 10. There is a fee for the course.

\*\*\*The Enterprise campus of Enterprise-Ozark Community College is offering Conversational Spanish - 2 on Tuesdays, beginning March 15 - May 3 (excluding March 29 and April 5). This special interest course is designed for adults who have some knowledge of using the Spanish language. Completion of Conversational Spanish - 1 is suggested but not required. At the conclusion of this class students should have improved their Spanish language usage so that they should be better able to communicate when visiting Spanish speaking countries or when speaking with Hispanic co-workers. Registration deadline is March 10. There is a fee for the course.

For more information on these classes or to register, call (334) 347-2623, ext. 2209.



"A good end cannot sanctify evil means, nor must we ever do Evil that Good may come of it."

It was 1668, and the twenty-three year old prisoner locked in the Tower of London was no ordinary criminal, as his father was a wealthy landowner and admiral in the British navy. The prisoner belonged to a newly formed religious organization called the Society of Friends, or Quakers, and after publishing a book criticizing the Church of England, he was declared a danger to the state. His name was William Penn, and fifteen years later, he founded Pennsylvania.

As a member of the British aristocracy, young William used his friendship with the Duke of York, later crowned King James II, to secure his release. After gaining his freedom, he continued writing and preaching for the Quakers, which led to regular conflicts with British legal authorities. This led Penn to dream of founding a colony that would be based on tolerance, representative government, and religious freedom.

By 1681, William was thirty-seven. His father had passed away and King Charles II owed his father's estate a large sum of money. Recognizing an opportunity to fulfill his dream, Penn convinced the king to settle the debt by granting him land in North America. On February 28, 1681, Penn secured a land grant that the king named Pennsylvania, in honor of Penn's late father. The new venture while undertaken for profit, was also a "Holy Experiment," as Penn

## Obituaries

EDNA M. GRANTHAM  
Mrs. Edna Margaret Williams Grantham, age 67, of Elba, Ala., died Monday, Feb. 28, 2005 at Mizell Memorial Hospital in Opp, Ala.

Funeral services were held March 2, 2005 at Dillard Funeral Home Chapel in Troy with Rev. Earl Guillier officiating. Burial followed at Zion Chapel Cemetery with Dillard Funeral Home of Troy directing.

Survivors include three daughters: Sericia Rushing, Elba; Clover Ann Lynn (Timothy) - Jirnight, Jack, Crickett Edna (Christopher) Danley, Pine Level; three sisters: Ida Carney, Thelma McHaffey, Jeanel Johnson; one brother: Howard Williams; eight grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

HOYT JACOB BRUNSON  
Mr. Hoyt Jacob "Jakey" Brunson, age 61, died Saturday Feb. 26, 2005 at his residence following a long illness.

Memorial services were held March 1, 2005 from the Chapel

of Fuqua-Bankston Funeral Home of Ozark, Ala. with Rev. O'neal Brown officiating.

Survivors include two daughters: Marisa Lynn Smith, Columbia, S.C.; Evelyn Orendoff, Adairville, Ky.; one son: Chuck Brunson, Charleston, S.C.; his mother and step-father: Mildred and Hugh Enfinger of the Bertha Community; one sister: Madalyn B. Miller, Ozark; and seven grandchildren.

MRS. LENA FULLER  
Mrs. Lena Pearl Fuller, age 93, of New Brockton, Ala., formerly of Elba, died Saturday, Feb. 26, 2005 at Elba General Hospital in Elba.

Funeral services were held Feb. 28, 2005 from the Chapel of Hayes Funeral Home in Elba with Rev. Elbert Smith and Rev. Paul Kendrick officiating. Burial followed in the Ino Baptist Church Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing. Mrs. Fuller was preceded in death by husband, Fondie Harrison, and husband, Fletcher Fuller.

Survivors include three sons: Jimmy Harold Harrison, Charles Wayne (wife, Adella) Harrison, Elba; Wallace L. Harrison, Level Plains, Ala.; three daughters: Betty Jo (husband, Ken) Hicks, Mary Sue Kelly, Annette (husband, Mike) Windham, all of New Brockton; 14 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren.

grandchildren, numerous nieces and nephews and many beloved friends.

**CARD OF THANKS**

MARY ALICE BLUE FAMILY

The family of the late Sister Mary Alice Blue wishes to acknowledge all gestures of kindness shown during the illness and expiration of our loved one. We would like to express a special thank you to the Wiregrass Hospice and Coleman Funeral Home & Staff. Words are inadequate to express our thanks. May God richly bless and keep each of you in the palm of his hands. The Family

3-3-pd

Pre-need funeral planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home For details Call 897-2225

## COLEMAN FUNERAL HOME

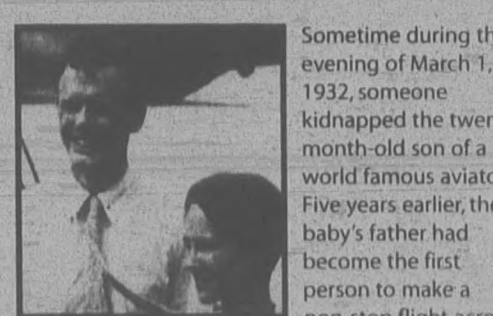
and COLEMAN & SOWELL MEMORIAL & VAULT

COMPLETE CEMETERY WORK

We Serve With Dignity & Care

PRE-NEED FUNERAL & MONUMENT AVAILABLE (334) 897-6148

## IT HAPPENED THIS WEEK!



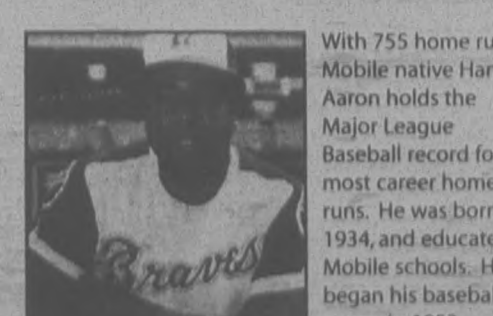
The victim's parents. Through the University of Missouri at Kansas City.

Sometime during the week of March 1, 1932, someone kidnapped the twenty-month-old son of a world famous aviator. Five years earlier, the baby's father had become the first person to make a non-stop flight across the Atlantic Ocean.

His son was killed, and in September 1934, police arrested Bruno Hauptmann. He was charged with kidnapping and murder, found guilty and executed on April 3, 1935.

Who was the father? Do you want to find the answer, or get more information? Go to <http://tinyurl.com/57hr>

## ALABAMA FAST FACT



Hank Aaron. Through the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

With 755 home runs, Mobile native Hank Aaron holds the Major League Baseball record for most career home runs. He was born in 1934, and educated in Mobile schools. He began his baseball career in 1953, playing for the Indianapolis Clowns of the Negro League.

Find out more about this Alabama hero, and read his thoughts about his career as a black baseball player in the 1950s at <http://tinyurl.com/49hps>

We thank our partners for their commitment to our community, our schools, and our young people. Together, we ensure teachers and students receive all learning materials at no cost to them.

E-mail your questions or comments to [elba@elba.net](mailto:elba@elba.net)

Elba Clipper in Education

Library of Congress: Religion and the Founding of America

This resource examines the role of religious intolerance in Europe in the development of the American colonies. Beginning in the seveneenth century, the exhibit's seven sections discuss religion in American society through to the first half of the nineteenth century.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/67C2o>

The Avalon Project

This collection of primary sources includes documents about Pennsylvania. All were either authored by William Penn, or passed by the colony's representative assembly during Penn's lifetime.

Web Address: <http://tinyurl.com/6188x>

Touchstone Energy

See Your Local Energy Provider

ELBA







# SCHOOLS



## Tiger Tales

Editors:  
Casey Medlock &  
Kayla Kelley

### Did You Know?...

by Brittney Clark

On Feb. 1, 1965, John Sweat Rock (1825-1966), a noted Boston lawyer, became the first African-American to practice before the U. S. Supreme Court and the first Black person to speak before the House of Representatives.

On Feb. 3, 1956, Autherine J. Lucy became the first black student to attend the University of Alabama. She was expelled three days later "for her own safety" in response to threats

from a mob. In 1992 Autherine Lucy Foster graduated from the university with a Master's degree in education. The same day, her daughter, Grazia Foster, graduated with a Bachelor's degree in corporate finance.

On Feb. 4, 1913 Rosa Louise McCauley (Rosa Parks) was born.

Columbia University graduate and Harvard law student Barack Obama became the first African-American named president of Harvard Law Review.

Harry S. McAlphin was the first African-American to be accredited to attend a White House press conference.

In 1926 Carter G. Woodson creates Negro History week, in 1976 it became Black History Month.

C.J. Walker an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and social activist, was the first black woman millionaire.

The Navy frigate U.S.S. Jesse L. Brown was commissioned in 1973. The ship was named for ensign Jesse L. Brown, the first African American naval aviator killed in combat over Korea.

### Co-Op Spotlight

by Gale Olson



This week's Co-Op Spotlight belongs to none other than Alison Smith.

Alison is currently a graduating senior at Elba High. She is the 18-year-old daughter of Dennis and Jan Smith.

Alison is employed at the Elba General Hospital where she works in medical records as a clerk. She has worked at the hospital for six months.

When she is not working, she is actively involved in Sr. Beta and Mu Alpha Theta. Alison also served as auxiliary and color guard captain with the EHS Marching Tigers.

After high school, she plans to attend Troy University, but her major is undecided.

Congratulations, Alison, for being this week's Co-Op Spotlight.

### Did you know...

by Toni Brooks

Elba became the county seat in 1852.



### HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:

- High quality, professional photographs will be made locally and at no charge or obligation.
- We, as sponsors, will use and display the photos as a tribute to TOMORROW'S LEADERS...TODAY
- As a bonus, you will see finished color photos (photos used in the feature may be in black and white) and have an opportunity to purchase any for your family needs - you are not obligated to buy anything. No age limit.

"TOMORROW'S LEADERS..." Feature is Sponsored by:

### THE ELBA CLIPPER

DATE: Thursday, March 10, 2005  
LOCATION: The Elba Clipper Office

HOURS: 3:30 - 7:00 p.m.

CALL: Ronda at 897-3379

Photography By  
INTERPRESS STUDIOS

## Elba FFA chapter competes in county competition

by Ashley Gibson

Members of the Elba High School FFA competed in the Coffee County FFA Elimination on a recent Thursday with students from Enterprise, New Brockton, Zion Chapel and Kinston.

The contest was centered at the New Brockton Farm Center and entertainment was provided by the Elba FFA Quartet. Quartet members are Brianna Bailey, Ashley Carpenter, William Carpenter and Judson Vaughan.

Wesley Calhoun placed second in the County Tractor Driving Contest. B.J. Ray also competed in the County Tractor Driving Contest.

The Elba FFA placed third in the Livestock Judging Contest. Forestry Team members are Sonya Dodd, Whitney Kilcrease, Graham Morrow and Dustin Rhoades.

The Elba FFA placed third in the Livestock Judging Contest. Livestock Team members are Whitney Bailey, Arrian Bowers, Ben Coppage, Ashton Grimes, Kristi Spinks and Blake Qualls.

We congratulate the Elba FFA Chapter for representing our school and community in such a fine way at this county event. The FFA expresses a special thanks to National Security for allowing us to use their forest facilities and to Pea River Timber Company for conducting the Forestry Judging Contest.

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### EHS Student Spotlight

by Rebecca English

This week, the student spotlight shines on Johnathan Terrez Lockett.

Johnathan is the 18-year-old son of John Nelson and the late Janet Lockett. He is involved in many activities here at Elba High School, such as EHS Ambassador, EHS Chorus, FFA, FBLA, and he is an SGA Representative.

Johnathan's hobbies include singing, being with family and friends, and getting on the Internet. He is also very active in the youth of Harris Temple Church of God in Christ.

Johnathan's peers would describe him as friendly, caring, and an all around good guy. His future plans are to attend Alabama State and major in business or architecture.

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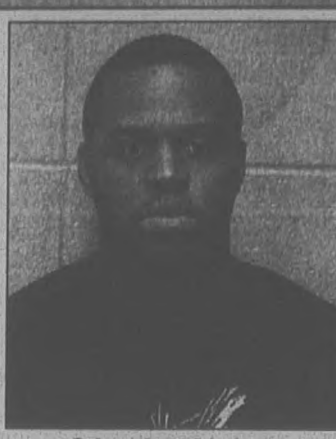
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## 20 young ladies ready to compete for Miss Elba titles Saturday night at EHS auditorium

The New Season Study Club will sponsor the 2005 Miss Elba Pageants Saturday night, March 5, at the Elba High School auditorium. The pageant will begin at 6 p.m.

Age divisions include Future Little Miss Elba (ages 4-5), Little Miss Elba (first graders), Junior Miss Elba (7th-10th graders), and Miss Elba (ages 17-21). All participants either attend school in Elba or hold a permanent Elba address.

This year's pageant will have a luau theme, and the contestants will perform an opening number. The emcee for the evening will be Karen Grider Snyder, a former Miss Elba.

Everyone is encouraged to come out and show support for these young ladies as they compete to become ambassadors for the City of Elba throughout the year.



Whitney Anderson  
Miss Elba contestant



Arrian Bowers  
Miss Elba contestant



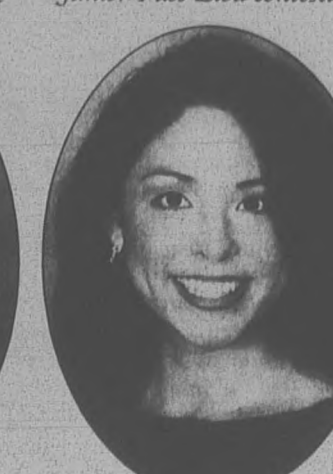
Lauren McClung  
Junior Miss Elba contestant



Brianna Bailey  
Junior Miss Elba contestant



Haley Stinson  
Junior Miss Elba contestant



Christina Bryant  
Junior Miss Elba contestant



# CLASSIFIEDS

## The Elba Clipper

417 W. Buford St. • P.O. Box A  
Elba, AL 36323-0257

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e-mail: clipper@alaweb.com

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The deadline for placing a classified or other advertisement is noon on Tuesday of the week in which the ad is to appear.

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Only \$300\* per week (first 15 words)  
\*Additional words 17¢ each

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### PERSONALS/NOTICES

GET MARRIED in the mountains at Mentone Wedding Chapel - simple, affordable, elegant. Couples, family & friends, receptions, honeymoon packages, complete package, photos. 1-256-634-4181. Fax: 1-256-634-4060. www.mentoneweddingchapel.com. Email: linda@mentoneweddingchapel.com

INVENTORS CONFERENCE - March 3rd, Jacksonville State University. Call 1-256-782-5324 or go to www.jsu.edu/depart/ced.

### YARD SALES

2-3 FAMILY YARD SALE-SAT. MARCH 5TH 7:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. On Troy Elba Hwy. Close to Rebel Gro. 8 Mile Out of Elba. 3-3-117

COMMUNITY WIDE PLEA MARKET YARD SALE - Zion Chapel High School, Hwy. 87-Jack, AL Sat. March 5, 2005. Gates open 7:00 pm Till Noon. Spaces available @ \$15.00 Each. To reserve a space or for more information contact Terri @897-5447 or Jane @897-3742. Sponsored by the Zion Chapel Band Boosters. 2-24-26

YARD SALE: SATURDAY, MARCH 5th, New Brockton Methodist Church, 8:00-12:00, 117 Dawkins & King Sts 3-3-11c

### HELP WANTED

DRIVER NEEDED Local Hauls Home Dailey. Only a few positions available. Great opportunity and great benefits. Call BBS, Profit Sharing, 401k, credit union, vacation pay, and more. So give Angie a call @ 800-844-6458 or visit our web site at www.billybarnes.net 2-24-3c

### HELP WANTED

DRIVERS/CDL-A Van & Flatbed drivers, \$50,000 yearly potential. High weekly miles. 1 yr. TTT exp. SMX 1-800-247-8040, www.smx.com. (R)

### HELP WANTED

IF YOU drove for Heartland and lived in Alabama you would have made \$6,049.04 more in 2004! Our 2005 raise means even more! How big is your raise? Heartland Express 1-800-419-9533. www.heartlandexpress.com.

### HELP WANTED

DRIVER OWNER Operators Dry Van Division. Must Own 1999 Or Newer Trucks To Run Dry Van Division. Alaplex Transportation. \*Excellent Pay \*Top Miles \*Fuel Card \*Rider Program \*Company Paid Liability \*Cargo Insurance. Must have Class A CDL, Good Driving Record, 23 years of Age, 2 years OTR Experience, CDL DU's, Current DOT Physical, Plus Negative Drug Screen, No Lease Program Available! Must Own Your Truck! Call Kathy at 1-800-633-2272. (R)

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IF YOU drove for Heartland and lived in Alabama you would have made \$6,049.04 more in 2004! Our 2005 raise means even more! How big is your raise? Heartland Express 1-800-419-9533. www.heartlandexpress.com.

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## CLASSIFIEDS

### FOR RENT

FOR RENT: 2 BR, 2 BATH MOBILE HOME. Water & Garbage Furnished. 897-6332. 2-24-1c

### TRAILER LOTS FOR SALE

TRAILER LOTS FOR SALE-All City Utility, Cash Only. Call 897-3911 to inquire. 1-30-6c

### INSURANCE

PROTECT YOUR family or business with low cost term life insurance - no agent visit - apply by phone. Call today 1-800-688-1617.

### PUBLIC NOTICES

All Elba Clipper public notices are posted on the internet at <http://www.alabamalegals.com/main> for no extra charge

### STATE OF ALABAMA

COFFEE COUNTY FORECLOSURE NOTICE

WHEREAS, On November 21, 2005, Donnie Leon Hardy and Sheila Y. Hardy, Husband and Wife, did execute and deliver to Covington County Bank, a state banking corporation a mortgage, and assigns, to cross said land on certain real estate hereinafter described, which mortgage appears of record in the Office of the Judge of Probate of Coffee County, Elba Division, Alabama, at OR Book 14-A, Pages 195-200, and;

WHEREAS, default has been made in the payment of said Mortgage as provided herein, which default continued at this date and said Mortgage is subject to foreclosure;

NOW, THEREFORE, three weeks notice is hereby given that the undersigned will sell at public outcry for cash, to the highest bidder, in front of the courthouse doors, main entrance, in Elba, Coffee County, Alabama, during the legal hours of sale on March 9, 2005, the real estate being more particularly described as lying and being situated in Coffee County, State of Alabama, to-wit: Parcel 1, The NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of NE 1/4 of the Northwest side of said highway, and running thence Northwest along the West margin of said highway 211 yards; thence West with fence 187 yards to abut thence Southwesterly in direct line to a point 33 yards North of the Southeast corner of the NE 1/4 of NW 1/4 of said Section; thence South to said corner; thence East 440 yards; more or less, to the point of beginning; Excepted Parcel No. 2, being a parcel of land conveyed by Leon H. Hardy and wife, Lorraine Hardy, to Annie Mae Crawley, by Warranty Deed dated 29 November 1980, recorded in Deed Book 34-A at Page 139, described as:

"One acre of land, together with the entire building thereon described as follows: Commencing at a point where the North boundary line of the NE 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of the West right of way line of the Elba-Troy, Alabama, Highway No. 87 and running thence in the Westerly direction 210 feet along said forty line, thence in a Southerly direction and parallel with the West right of way line of said Highway No. 87 for a distance of 210 feet and to a point of beginning. The property hereby conveyed being in the NE 1/4 of NW 1/4, Section 9, Township 6, Range 20."

Excepted Parcel No. 3, being a parcel of land this day conveyed by Lorraine J. Hardy, a widow, to Sandra Hardy Killingsworth, a married woman and Jaky Hardy Felix, a married woman, subject to life estate reserved by the said Lorraine J. Hardy, described as "A lot or parcel of land located in Coffee County, Alabama and being more particularly described as follows: Commencing at a point where the North line of the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Section 9, T6N, R20E, intersects the West right of way line of the Elba-Troy, Alabama, Highway #87 210 feet to the point of beginning; thence continue along the West right of way line of the Elba-Troy, Alabama, Highway #87 5.25 degrees - 12' - 18" 250.0 feet to a point; thence N 81 degrees - 01' - 07" 190.0 feet to a point; thence N 24 degrees - 18E 210.0 feet to a point; thence North 88 degrees - 38E 210.0 feet to the point of beginning. Said property being located in the NW 1/4 of the NE 1/4, Section 9, T6N, R20E, and containing 1 acre more or less."

The lands described herein above contain a net 57 acres, more or less.

Note: By separate deed, Lorraine J. Hardy, the grantor herein, is conveying to Sandra Hardy Killingsworth, a married woman, the NE 1/2 of NW 1/4 of NW 1/4 of Section 9, Township 6 North,

### FOR SALE TO BE MOVED

Sealed bids for the old Newbia Church Building 3810, Coffee Road 330, will be received until 2:00 P.M. Saturday, March 19, 2005 and at said location public bidding open. Building and debris moved off site 60 days following bid opening.

### WANTED-LAND

WANTED: Country properties in south central Alabama. We have local and out of state buyers contacting us daily. If you need to sell a rural home or land call United Country. 334-566-8053. 5-6-1c

### PROPERTY FOR SALE

HOUSE LOT FOR SALE ON Seagrove Highway. Drive. 3000 sq. ft. Desirable Neighborhood. Contact Mike Russell RUSSELL CONSTRUCTION INC. 334-466-6540. 11-11-1c

### REAL ESTATE

1145 ELM AVE. ELBA 3 bd/bath remodeled home. All new in 2003; roof, paint in oil, hot water heater, heat pump, carpet, kitchen, oak cabinets, countertop, sink, ceramic tile floor & dishwasher. Large kitchen & living rm. \$57,000. Call ARLENE ROWE @ Coldwell Banker 334-466-5245. 2-24-2c

### FINANCIAL SERVICES

SAVE UP TO 57% on monthly bills. FREE consultation. Debt help. Be treated with honesty, understanding & respect. CareOne Credit Counseling 1-800-725-9820 (toll-free). For a list of CareOne providers and licensing information, visit [www.careonecredit.com](http://www.careonecredit.com). (R)

# CLASSIFIEDS

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### STATE OF ALABAMA



## House Leader announces legislation to help soldiers' families

House Majority Leader Ken Guin (D-Carbon Hill) announces today plans to introduce legislation that will provide \$250,000 of life insurance for every member of the Alabama National Guard who is called to duty for overseas deployment.

"Alabama, on a much higher percentage than most states, is sending her sons and daughters to Iraq, and other countries throughout the world, in America's War on Terror. Iraq, in particular, is a very dangerous place," states Rep. Guin. Alabama state ranks sixth among the 50 states in the number of National Guard troops. The Alabama National Guard

currently has 18 units on overseas duty; 13 serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom, 4 serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan, and 1 serving in Operation Joint Guardian in Kosovo.

Early in the Iraq War, the largest deployment of Alabama guard troops was from Guin's home district. "I saw first hand the worry on these brave Alabamians faces as they were sent into harm's way. Fortunately, every member of the 877th returned home safely," said Guin.

"These soldiers were anxious about how their families would cope with their absence. In the back of their minds, the ultimate

concern was how their families would survive they were to die in the line of duty. It is the moral responsibility of this state to do everything possible to support the many Alabamians who continue to serve in Iraq and on other foreign shores," said Guin. Guin's proposed legislation will allow the state to either take out an insurance policy on each guardsman called to overseas duty or to allow the state to self-insure these troops.

"This bill will be similar to legislation proposed by Governor Bill Richardson in New Mexico. I have added the option for our state to self-insure. In New Mexico, the expected cost of insurance is

\$16.25 per month per soldier. This is a small price to pay for the great sacrifice being made by our Alabama National Guard units," said Guin.

**Clark Theatres • Enterprise**  
WEB SITE: [www.clarktheatres.com](http://www.clarktheatres.com)  
CLARK THEATRES, 800.447.4333

**MARCH 4-10**  
Enterprise Shopping Center  
I - THE PACIFIER (PG)  
M-F 7:10 & 9:10 - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:10  
No Pases - No Web Discount

II - MAN OF THE HOUSE (PG-13)  
M-F 7 & 9:10 - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:10  
No Pases - No Web Discount

Westgate Center  
III - CURSED (PG-13)  
M-F 7 & 9:10 - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:10  
No Pases - No Web Discount

IV - HITCH (PG-13)  
M-F 7:10 ONLY - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:10 ONLY  
CONSTANTINE (PG-13)  
M-F 9:10 ONLY - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:10 ONLY

College Cinema - College Plaza  
I - DIARY OF A MAD BLACK WOMAN (PG-13)  
M-F 7 & 9:30 - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:30

II - BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE (PG)  
M-F 7:10 & 9:30 - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:30  
No Pases - No Web Discount

III - BE COOL (PG-13)  
M-F 7 & 9:30 - \$4.50 & 2:10 & 4:30  
No Pases - No Web Discount

Bargain Matinee Sat. & Sun.  
2 p.m. only - all seats - \$4.50  
Clark Theatres web site:  
[www.clarktheatres.com](http://www.clarktheatres.com)



## DO YOU LIKE PANCAKES?

If You Do-Don't Miss the Annual

## Elba Lion's Club Pancake Breakfast

This Saturday Morning March 5th

from 6:00 a.m.-10:00 a.m.

at the Senior Citizens Building on the Square in Downtown Elba

## PUBLIC NOTICE

### STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF

NOTICE is hereby given that a bill substantially as follows will be introduced in the 2005 Regular Session of the Legislature of Alabama and application for its passage and enactment will be made.

### A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

Relating to Coffee and Pike Counties and the Twelfth Judicial Circuit; providing for the establishment of a pretrial diversion program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. (a) The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit of Alabama may establish a pretrial diversion program.

(b) All pretrial diversion powers endowed by the state law and provided for by statutes and acts of the powers of discretion otherwise provided by law for the District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit shall be retained.

(c) The pretrial diversion program shall be under the direct supervision and control of the district attorney and the district attorney may contract with any agency, person, or corporation for services related to this act. The district attorney may employ necessary persons to accomplish this act and these persons shall serve at the pleasure of the district attorney.

Section 2. For the purposes of this act, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

(1) DISTRICT ATTORNEY. The District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, State of Alabama or any of his or her staff.

(2) LAW ENFORCEMENT. Any person who is employed by an agency or department whose purpose is to protect people. This may include, but is not limited to, police personnel, sheriff's office personnel, coroner, Department of Human Resources personnel, parole and probation personnel, community corrections, official personnel, and court referral office personnel, whether that agency or department is in the State of Alabama or located elsewhere.

(3) OFFENDER. Any person charged with a crime as defined by the Code of Alabama 1975, which was allegedly committed in the jurisdiction of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit, State of Alabama.

(4) SERIOUS PHYSICAL INJURY. As that term is defined in Section 13A-2-2(14), Code of Alabama 1975.

Section 3. (a) A person charged with a criminal offense specified in this subsection whose jurisdiction is in the circuit or district court of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit may apply to the District Attorney of the Twelfth Judicial Circuit for admittance to the pretrial diversion program.

(b) A person charged with any of the following offenses may apply for admittance into the program:

(1) A traffic offense, other than driving under the influence (DUI).

(2) A property offense.

(3) An offense wherein the victim did not receive serious physical injury.

(4) An offense in which the victim was not a child under 14 years of age, a law enforcement officer, a school official, or a correctional officer.

(5) A misdemeanor other than one specifically excluded in this section.

(6) A violation classified

under the Code of Alabama 1975.

(c) The following offenses are ineligible for consideration for the pretrial diversion program:

(1) Trafficking in or distribution of drugs, or both.

(2) Any offense involving the abuse of a child or an elderly person.

(3) Any sex offense.

(4) Any Class A felony.

(5) Any offense involving serious injury to a person.

(6) Any offense involving death.

(7) Driving under the influence.

(d) A person deemed by the district attorney to be a threat to the safety or well-being of the community shall not be eligible for the pretrial diversion program.

Section 4. (a) Admittance to the pretrial diversion program shall be appropriate in any of the following instances:

(1) The offender is 18 years of age or older, or 16 years of age or older if the offense is a traffic citation, at the time the alleged offense was committed.

(2) There is a probability justice will be served if the offender is placed in the diversion program.

(3) It is determined the needs of the state and of the offender can be met through the pretrial diversion program.

(4) The offender appears to pose no substantial threat to the safety and well-being of the community.

(5) It appears the offender is not likely to be involved in further criminal activity.

(6) The offender will likely respond to rehabilitative treatment.

(b) The district attorney may waive any of the standards specified in subsection (a) if justice or special circumstances dictate.

Section 5. (a) Prior to being admitted to the pretrial diversion program or as a part of the district attorney's evaluation process, an applicant may be required by the district attorney to furnish information concerning past criminal history, educational history, work record, family history, medical or psychiatric treatment or care received, psychological tests taken, and any other information concerning the offender which the district attorney believes has a bearing on the decision as to whether or not the offender should be admitted to the pretrial diversion program.

(b) The district attorney may require the offender to submit to any type of test or evaluation process or interview the district attorney deems appropriate in evaluating the offender for admittance into the pretrial diversion program. The costs of any test or evaluation shall be paid by the offender or as otherwise agreed to or as provided for by this act.

Section 6. (a) An offender who enters into the pretrial diversion program shall satisfy each of the following requirements:

(1) Voluntarily waive, in writing, and contingent upon the successful completion of the program, his or her right to a speedy trial.

(2) While in the program, the applicant shall agree, in writing, to the following limitations established by statute or rules of court.

(3) Agree, in writing, to the conditions of the pretrial diversion program established by the district attorney.

(4) If there is a victim of the crime, agree in writing to pay restitution, if any, due the victim, within a specified period of time

and in an amount to be determined by the district attorney taking into account circumstances of the offender and victim.

(b) The district attorney's pretrial diversion program records, along with the records relating to pretrial diversion programs admittance, are confidential records and shall not be admissible in subsequent proceedings, criminal or civil.

(c) Communications between pretrial diversion program counselors and defendants shall be privileged unless a court of competent jurisdiction determines there is a compelling public interest that the communications be submitted to the court for an in camera review.

Section 7. (a) Except for traffic offenses, an offender shall make application to the pretrial diversion program no later than 21 days after his or her first appearance or arraignment, whichever occurs first.

(b) In felony cases, fifty dollars (\$50) of the fee, and in misdemeanor and violation cases, twenty-five dollars (\$25) of the fee, for each applicant accepted for local and state law enforcement shall be allocated to the arresting or ticketing law enforcement agency making the case. Those fees may be used at the agency's discretion to support its operations. These fees may include, but are not limited to, hiring employees, buying needed equipment and supplies, providing training opportunities, or any other lawful purpose.

(c) Except as herein specifically provided, the district attorney may use fees collected by the pretrial diversion program for the prosecution of state criminal cases; to help support local and state law enforcement and coroners; for education programs which relate to the prevention of crime; or, to benefit any agency or department of state, city, or county government which assists local law enforcement.

(d) Refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs and refrain from frequenting places where alcoholic beverages or illegal controlled substances are sold, possessed, or used in violation of law.

(e) Refrain from contact with certain persons or premises.

(f) Obtain and maintain employment.

(g) Attend and pay for individual, group, or family counseling.

(h) Pay victim restitution, if any is due.

(i) Pay court costs, fines, or both, incurred as a result of the offense charged and any other amounts the offender owes state, federal, or local government as a result of the criminal offenses.

(j) Pay supervision fees, application fees pursuant to this act, and pay court referral office fees, drug, alcohol, violence, or other self-help fees charged as a result of participation in the pretrial diversion program.

(k) Enter into an agreement with the district attorney that all fees paid for admittance into the pretrial diversion program shall be forfeited to the use and benefit of the pretrial diversion program; should the offender be removed from the pretrial diversion program by the district attorney for any cause.

(l) Observe curfew or home detention or travel constraints as set out in the offender's agreement.

(m) Enter into an agreement with the district attorney that the offender may be required to pay restitution, court costs, fines, fees, or child support or other withheld or garnished from the wages or salary of the offender.

(n) The offender shall be subject to other terms or conditions as the district attorney and the offender may agree to in their written agreement, if being the purpose of this act to allow the district attorney broad discretion in designing a program specifically for each offender and circumstances of the offender.

Section 10. (a) In any case in which an offender is admitted into a pretrial diversion program, there shall be a written

agreement between the district attorney and the offender. The agreement shall include the terms of the pretrial diversion program, the length of the program, and the period of time for which the district attorney will dispose of the charges against the offender in a non-criminal manner or what charges the defendant will plead guilty to and the recommended sentence the offender is suggested to receive. If, as part of the pretrial diversion program, the offender agrees to plead guilty to a particular offense and to be subjected to approval or disapproval by an appropriate circuit or district judge of the state prior to admission of the offender in the pretrial diversion program.

(b) As a condition of being admitted to the pretrial diversion program, the offender shall agree to any of the following terms or conditions:

(1) Participate in an education setting to include, but not limited to, K-12, college, job training, school, trade school, GED classes, or adult basic education courses.

(2) If appropriate, attempt to learn to read and write.

(3) Financially support his or her spouse, children, or both, or pay child support, spousal support, or both.

(4) Refrain from the use of alcohol and drugs and refrain from frequenting places where alcoholic beverages or illegal controlled substances are sold, possessed, or used in violation of law.

(5) Refrain from contact with certain persons or premises.

(6) Obtain and maintain employment.

(7) Attend and pay for individual, group, or family counseling.

(8) Pay victim restitution, if any is due.

(9) Pay court costs, fines, or both, incurred as a result of the offense charged and any other amounts the offender owes state, federal, or local government as a result of the criminal offenses.

(10) Pay supervision fees, application fees pursuant to this act, and pay court referral office fees, drug, alcohol, violence, or other self-help fees charged as a result of participation in the pretrial diversion program.

(11) Enter into an agreement with the district attorney that all fees paid for admittance into the pretrial diversion program shall be forfeited to the use and benefit of the pretrial diversion program; should the offender be removed from the pretrial diversion program by the district attorney for any cause.

(12) Observe curfew or home detention or travel constraints as set out in the offender's agreement.

(13) Enter into an agreement with the district attorney that the offender may be required to pay restitution, court costs, fines, fees, or child support or other withheld or garnished from the wages or salary of the offender.

(14) The offender shall be subject to other terms or conditions as the district attorney and the offender may agree to in their written agreement, if being the purpose of this act to allow the district attorney broad discretion in designing a program specifically for each offender and circumstances of the offender.

Section 11. The district



## Zion Chapel High School REBEL NEWS

Rachel Bryan, Sponsor

## Students complete online FBLA testing in Troy

Zion Chapel recently had 40 students take part in the Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) newest competitive event process.

Early in January local sponsors were notified that the written competitive events would be completed online. In the notification the instructions for going online to a particular website to make sure that it could be reached from the individual school. Another requirement was to make sure that the equipment in the school met the requirements for taking a test online.

Mrs. Rachel Bryan, Zion Chapel's sponsor, took the sample quiz and found that Zion Chapel had no problem reaching the website or meeting the requirements of the test.

Online testing began Monday, Feb. 14, and continued through Friday, Feb. 18, from 7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. each day. Each competitor was entitled to work for one uninterrupted hour. The local sponsor could not proctor the testing periods. Proctors had to be employees of the school system or a local business representative.

At Zion Chapel, Mrs. Lori McCrory was the proctor for the testing. Mrs. McCrory teaches math and Spanish and is Zion Chapel's system operator for the computer network.

At Zion Chapel testing was planned for two days with a third day left open in case there were problems. On the second day during the second wave of testing, the Internet went down. At that time there were 10 students who had not yet taken their test.

Plans were made for those 10 students to go to the central office of the Coffee County Board of Education to take their test. When the group arrived at 8 a.m. on the last day of testing, all of Coffee County's Internet was down and no one knew how long before a connection would be reestablished.

At that point, Dr. Linda Ingram, superintendent of Coffee County Schools, got on the phone with Jerry Barnes, principal at Zion Chapel High School, and Al Griffin at the Troy Pike Regional Center for Technology in Troy and made arrangements for Zion Chapel's 10 FBLA members to come to Troy to take their test.

Timothy Long who is competing in Public Speaking did not have to take a written test.

Other competitors were: Accounting—Lindsay Leverett and Heather Sanders; Business Calculations—William McCurdy and Michael Sneed; Business Communication—Shea Manning; Business Law—Clarissa Holloway and Morgan Miley; Computer Applications—Eppie Long and Matt Williams; Computer Concepts—Josh Wayne Lambert and Luke Peters; Desktop Publishing—Erica Lewis, Kristen McClelland, Ashley Parrish, and Loyd White; Entrepreneurship—Nicole Brown, Meta Gatlin, Kenna

Roberts, and Jeremy Sanders; FBLA Principles and Procedures—Jessie Carroll and Brooke Stinson; Future Business Leader—Roy King; Introduction to Business—Communication—Joey Jones; Introduction to Business—Hobi Hussey and Clint Rhodes; Introduction to Parliamentary Procedure—Jon Fuller and Harry White; Networking Concepts—Clay Lewis and Jason Sanders; Parliamentary Procedures—Jackie Cowart, Courtney Dykes, Donna Flowers, Keri Flowers, Rosanna Johnson, and Melanie Perry; Technology Concepts—Josh Smith and Jamie White; Word Processing—Brittany Dismukes and Shene Hussey.

On Thursday, students were given a "tractor" tour so that they would be able to identify the various parts. The major safety factor for tractors in 2005 is "be sure to wear your seat belt." A tractor with a seat belt would have been unheard of a few years ago.

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# SCHOOLS

## Teacher kept paper quilt made by Class of 2005 as third graders

When the members of the class of 2005 were in the third-grade class of Betty McIntosh, one of the activities they did was to make a paper quilt after they read a story called "The Patchwork Quilt."

Mrs. McIntosh asked that each of the third-graders draw a picture on the blank paper square that she gave to them. Several members of that third-grade class are still in school at Zion Chapel. They are

now seniors and about ready to graduate.

Chris Leger drew a quilt square with circles and curves colored in a variety of colors. Clay Lewis made a very similar square but you could interpret his square to picture a river running through the mountains—only the water is pink. Josh Smith drew squares within squares and then used a variety of colors. He finished his square with a big X across the face.

Kristen McClelland drew a picture of a house in a very pretty setting. It has trees, blue sky, flowers, and the sun. Kenna Roberts has a similar square. Her square depicts a pretty house in a very pretty setting—just like Kristen's does. LeAnna Hammond drew a square made up of smaller squares that are multicolored. Her squares are really rectangles and some of them have curved sides scalloped sides. Michael Sneed drew a big tree with a blue sky for the background. Only he gave his tree a face with eyes, nose and mouth.

Lace Dickey, Austin Smith, Charlie Hurd, and Earl Jacobs drew fantasy pictures on their squares. Lance drew an Indy type race car. He named his car Cobra only he spelled it Crobra. Austin drew two futuristic jets spouting big tongues of fire out the fuses. He put a tile on one of his



Betty McIntosh and the quilt  
jets—"Charlie & Austin." Charlie drew a big yellow butterfly with pink wings looking down on an orange and black race car. He named the vehicle FATCAT. Earl Jacobs drew a multi-colored

## Zion Chapel students



## SPORTS

## Charity golf tournament set March 31 at Tartan Pines

Covington Electric Cooperative's Relay For Life team will host the 2005 Relay For Life Touchstone Energy Golf Tournament on Thursday, March 31 at Tartan Pines in Enterprise, Ala.

Registration for the Three-Person Scramble will begin at 11 a.m. with a Shotgun Start at 12:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in two categories: Gross and Net.

## Racing returns to Kinston track this weekend

By Mark Chisum

South Alabama Speedway is set to open the 2005 racing season in Kinston on March 4th and 5th with the 29th Annual Rattler Weekend.

The races start on Friday night with local drivers taking the spotlight. The Super Stock, Vintage, and Street Stock classes will compete in 50-lap features. Also on the night's schedule are features for the Modified, Coyote, and Mini Sportsman classes.

The Super Late Models take the stage on Saturday with the 29th Annual Rattler 200. Also on the Saturday schedule are features for the Roadrunner and CupLite classes.

With the winner's purse increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000, the Rattler 200 should bring in the very best Late Model drivers to the Kinston oval. Six former Rattler Champions are expected, including the only three-time Rattler winner, Ronnie Sanders. Charlie Bradberry won in 2002, Donald Long in 2000, Johnny Brazier in 1996, Junior Niedeken in 1995, and Dave Mader III in 1978. Four other drivers expected - Bubba Pollard,

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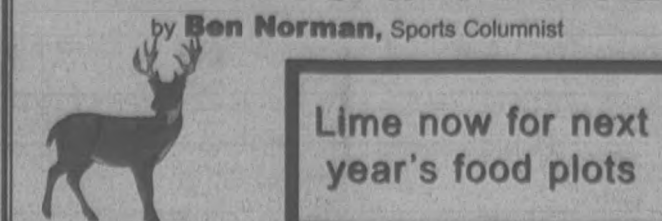
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## Let's Go... Outdoors with Ben



Lime now for next year's food plots

Many of us are procrastinators when it comes to soil testing and liming our winter food plots. Every year we say we are going to do it by the book this time, but planting season finds many of us running out and hastily disk, seeding and throwing a little 13-13-13 fertilizer out. Sometimes we get a good stand of rye, wheat or oats this way, but with a little more preparation we can greatly increase a food plot's yield.

Few food plot sites in Alabama already have the proper nutrients, so they must be added. An exception to this may be when food plots are planted on land that was used to grow agricultural crops the previous year and still have adequate nutrients in the soil.

Food plots in woodlands are often limited to plantings on logging roads and timber loading ramps. These areas will have a low level of plant nutrients and often acidic soils that are far from ideal for growing wildlife food. Tests by several universities have proven that the nutritional quality of plants is directly related to the fertility of the food plot soil.

The first step in upgrading a food plot is to take a soil test and follow the recommended rate of fertilizer and lime. The soil test should be performed several months before planting time in order to get the results back and have the proper amount of lime applied. Local Cooperative Extension agents will be able to assist planters with information on how to obtain a soil test and analyze the test results.

A couple of drivers already entered will have a long ride to get to Kinston. Tommy Grimes is from San Antonio, Texas and Donnie Wilson will drive from Oklahoma City. Others pre-entered include Casey Green, Chris Hornsby, Tim Bryant, Adam Reed, Jeremy Rice, and Nathan Davis. Starts open at 5:00 Friday with the first feature rolling off at 7:30. Saturday, the stands open at 1:00. Rattler 200 qualifying will be at 3:00. Rattler qualifying races begin at 7:00. For information, contact the track at (334) 365-2539 or visit the track's web site at www.southalabamaspw.com.

## County fishing lakes have opened for spring and summer enjoyment

Families can again enjoy quality time together fishing. Childhood memories of fishing with parents and grandparents are an important part of the fishing experience to many anglers. Families can create new fishing memories as State Public Fishing Lakes, which have returned to their fishing season schedule and are open six or seven days each week. Alabama has 23 State Public Fishing Lakes, also known as county lakes, are popular with families because of the abundance of

bank access, on-site concessions and restrooms, fishing piers, and good fishing. Anglers in the family can enjoy fishing, while others can play on the grassy areas, or grill at the picnic areas. Families wanting to go boating can launch their own boat. Fishing boats are welcome at the lakes, but most lakes do not allow the use of outboard motors. Families without a boat can enjoy fishing from a rented boat for \$2 a day. Additional charges are added for anglers who need to rent lifejackets or who want to enjoy additional accessories such as a trolling motor or anchors.

State Public Fishing Lakes have excellent fishing. Although the highest numbers of fish are caught in these lakes during May and early June, many large bass are often caught in the early spring. Some of these lakes have crappie, another favorite with early season anglers. Smaller lakes like State Public Fishing Lakes and ponds warm up earlier in spring than Alabama's larger reservoirs.

State Public Fishing Lakes are owned and managed by the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Lake managers operate these lakes by renting fishing boats and other equipment, and by selling snacks, bait, fishing equipment, fishing licenses, and daily permits. Daily permits cost \$2 a day (\$2.50 at Pike County Lake), and are needed for anglers 12 and older. Normal fishing license requirements also apply to state lake anglers.

Anglers wanting to fish a State Public Fishing Lake are encouraged to call the lake manager to determine which days of the week the lake is open. Additional information may be found at www.outdooralabama.com.

County Lake Name Manager Telephone Numbers:  
Barbour - Judy Ingram (334) 775-7123  
Coffee - Phillip Bryant (334) 897-8103  
Crenshaw - Chione Amundson (334) 335-3999  
Dale - Ed Lisenby (Dale) Bill Brooks (334) 774-0588  
Geneva - Eleanor Tillman (334) 684-6488  
Pike - Heidi Hendrickson (334) 484-9610

## Enterprise All-Stars win ARPA "8 and Under" District Tournament

The Alabama Parks and Recreation Association District "8 and Under" Basketball tournament was held last weekend at the Elba High School gym with the Enterprise All-Stars rolling to three straight wins to take home the tournament title.

Following are highlights of the six-team event:

## OPENING ROUND:

**ANDALUSIA 17 - ABBEVILLE 17** - Andalusia pulled ahead early and never looked back in a 27-17 win over Abbeville. Andalusia jumped out to a 17-9 lead at the half and rolled to the big win. Z. Daniels scored 12 points and T. Messick added 6 to lead Andalusia, while Jimmy Spann scored 12 points for Abbeville.

## ENTERPRISE 42 - GREENVILLE 15

Enterprise rolled to a big early lead and coasted in with a 42-15 win over Greenville. Enterprise pulled ahead 10-4 in the opening stanza and owned a 37-9 lead in the third quarter before coasting in with the easy win. Jordan Jones scored 9 points to lead Andalusia. Enterprise jumped out to a big 17-4 lead in the first quarter and was never threatened as it rolled to the impressive win. Jordan Jones scored 10 points to lead Enterprise, while Darrell Roberts added 8 and Markies Hornsby and Jacques Harris both added 6. M. Ward scored 5 points to lead Andalusia.

## SEMIFINAL ROUND:

**ANDALUSIA 32 ELBA 12** - Andalusia pulled ahead early and coasted in with a big 32-12 win over Elba. Andalusia jumped on top 12-3 in the opening stanza and owned a 26-6

lead in the third quarter as they rolled to the win. P. James and S. Sims both scored 8 points to lead Andalusia, while T. Messick and D. Henderson added 6 points apiece. Raheem Newson scored 4 points to lead Elba, while Logan Bailey added 3, Caleb Martin and Denzell Thomas both scored 2, and Kysion Edwards scored 1 point.

## ENTERPRISE 32 - GENEVA 19

Enterprise broke loose in the second half to rally and defeat Geneva 32-19. Enterprise scored only 2 points in the first quarter and trailed 12-9 at the half, but outscored Geneva 14-1 in the third quarter to take command and rolled to the wild win. Markies Hornsby scored 16 points to lead Enterprise, while Sid Thompson added 6 and Keith Matthews scored 4. Marquis Wilson scored 9 points and Jordan Smith added 6 to lead Geneva.

## CHAMPIONSHIP GAME:

**ENTERPRISE 44 ANDALUSIA 15** - Enterprise pulled ahead early and never looked back as it claimed the tournament championship with a 44-15 win over Andalusia. Enterprise jumped out to a big 17-4 lead in the first quarter and was never threatened as it rolled to the impressive win. Jordan Jones scored 10 points to lead Enterprise, while Darrell Roberts added 8 and Markies Hornsby and Jacques Harris both added 6. M. Ward scored 5 points to lead Andalusia.

## \*\* BASEBALL \*\* SOFTBALL \*\* SCHEDULES

## THURSDAY, MARCH 3

## Baseball

Elba at Highland Home (3:30)

## Softball

Straughn at Elba JV-V (4:00)  
Kinston JV at New Brockton JV (4:00)

## FRIDAY, MARCH 4

## Baseball

Elba JV, in Ariton JV Tournament

## Softball

Kinston, in Troy Trojan Tournament  
New Brockton JV at Luverne (4:00)

## SATURDAY, MARCH 5

## Baseball

Elba JV, in Ariton JV Tournament

## Softball

New Brockton JV, in Luverne JV Tournament

## MONDAY, MARCH 7

## Baseball

Elba JV at New Brockton (DH) 4:00

## Softball

Elba at Andalusia JV-V (4:00)

## TUESDAY, MARCH 8

## Baseball

Elba at Luverne (4:30)

## Softball

Elba at Straughn JV-V (4:00)  
Opp at Kinston V (DH) 4:00  
Geneva County JV at New Brockton (4:30)

## THURSDAY, MARCH 10

## Baseball

Elba at Opp (5:00)  
Elba JV at Opp (5:00)

## Softball

Kinston at Elba JV-V (4:00)  
New Brockton at Zion Chapel JV-V (4:00)

## Views From... THE PRESSBOX

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

Sometimes I have to look at a calendar just to know what day it is! At the Mularz house our life is so structured sometimes I have to look at the calendar just to know what day it is. During the week we all get up about fifteen minutes apart to allow the hot water heater time to do its thing so that we will all get to take a hot shower, then I am the first one dressed and head out to get the paper and feed the cats. By the time I get those chores done it is time to get some breakfast for the girls and then we all head off to school and work. I will admit we all get back to the house at various times, but in the mornings it is just another day.

## FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH...

\*\*\* The Elba Lady Tiger softball team opened its season last week and split a double-header against Ariton. The Tigers dropped their season opener, but bounced back big in the second game and posted a 15-5 win to hang their first "W" on the scoreboard. The Elba Tiger junior varsity has its own coach this season and that has already proven to be a big bonus as Coach Scott Rials has been able to devote all his attention to his team, and the players haven't had to share time working with and against the Tiger varsity. There is no doubt lots of baseball talent in the younger grades and the change in the program to split the varsity and junior varsity will pay dividends very quickly.

\*\*\* The AHSAA Southeast Regional Basketball Tournament at Troy University last week was filled with area teams and it was a good week for many of those teams as Samson and Geneva both punched their tickets to the state tournament in the girls division, while in the boys event Charles Henderson and Central, of Hayneville, both moved on to the Final Four. The gym at Troy may not be big enough for college action, but it is perfect for high school play, and last week the excitement was evident at all the games as the fans from the various schools made the trip to Troy and cheered on their teams. Good luck to all the teams and I will keep my fingers crossed that they bring home some state championship trophies.

\*\*\* The SEC. Tournament is just around the corner and I will be surprised if Alabama even makes it to the finals. The Crimson Tide appears to have already peaked and in recent games has looked anything but spectacular against good competition. And at the SEC tournament the competition will be stern every time a team hits the court. While Alabama is a lock for the NCAA tournament and has over 20 wins on the season, the Tide is just not consistent enough to be considered a true contender. I don't look for Auburn to make much noise up in Atlanta, but I am convinced that Tiger head coach Jeff Lebo is one of the best coaches in the nation. The first-year Auburn coach has done a great job teaching his young team about college basketball and has built a foundation that should be solid for many years to come.

\*\*\* I have heard that the gym floor at the Elba High gym will be replaced during the off-season and that next season the fans will see a sparkling new surface. While that is good, no gym surface will last very long when fans in street shoes and boots are allowed to get on the court at halftime in an attempt to make a shot from mid-court. I know the mid-court shot creates laughs and gives the fans a chance to win a little money, but a gym floor is made for use by those in basketball shoes, and can only last if there are strict rules in place. Here is an idea months ahead of time - only allow those fans in basketball shoes or rubber sole shoes to get on the court. They will learn very quickly and after a few games there will be no problems.

\*\*\* In closing... the youth All-Star teams from Elba competed in the A.R.P.A. District Basketball Tournaments last weekend and while only one team managed to win a game, all the teams played well and represented the city very well. The team that won posted a win over Opp, while the losses came to Andalusia, Enterprise and Troy. Elba is the smallest city in the district and often finds wins hard to come by. However, the competition makes the players better and allows them to see just how good other youngsters their age really are. Success cannot always be judged solely on wins and losses, and for the Elba players and coaches the all-star tournaments were again successful. Good job!

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## SPORTS

## JV and varsity fall to Andalusia Lady Tigers roughed up in season openers

## Lady Tigers get only 2 hits in 3-0 setback

The Elba Lady Tigers opened the 2005 high school softball season last week against the Andalusia Lady Bulldogs and managed only two base-runners against a trio of Andalusia pitchers as they suffered a 3-0 loss.

Andalusia jumped out to an early 1-0 lead in the top of the second inning as the Lady Bulldogs combined a lead-off single with an Elba error, then increased their lead to 3-0 in the fourth thanks to back-to-back hits and a sacrifice bunt.

Elba failed to get a runner on base through five innings, but finally got a hit on the scoreboard in the bottom of the sixth when LaFondra Thigpen laid down a bunt and beat out the throw to first base. Lady Tiger Krystan Parker singled up the middle to lead off the bottom of the seventh and briefly gave Elba a ray of hope. However, Parker was thrown out at second on a steal attempt and the game ended two batters later with Andalusia claiming the 3-0 win.

Stephanie Baxley pitched all seven innings for the Lady Tigers and allowed 3 runs, 2 earned runs, on 3 hits and 3 walks, while striking out 14 batters. At the plate, Elba sent 22 batters to the batter's box in seven innings, with LaFondra Thigpen and Krystan Parker both getting one hit.

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## Baseball and softball registration set to end March 4 in Elba

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has announced that registration for baseball and softball will continue through Friday, March 4, for boys and girls in all leagues.

Baseball leagues will include Tee Ball (ages 3-5), Coach Pitch (ages 6-8), Dixie Minor (ages 9-10), Dixie Youth (ages 11-12), Dixie Boys (ages 13-14), Dixie Pre-Majors (ages 15-16) and Dixie Majors (ages 17-18). A players age is determined by his age on August 1, 2005.

Softball leagues will include Tee Ball (ages 3-5), Coach Pitch (ages 6-8), Dixie Angels (ages 9-10), Dixie Ponytails (ages 11-12), Dixie Belles (ages 13-15) and Dixie Debs (ages 16-18). A players age is determined by her age on June 1, 2005.

A registration fee of \$20 is charged in all leagues, and all players will be provided with t-shirts, caps and accident insurance. Forms will be passed out at the school, all daycare centers and will also be available at the Elba Recreation Center. For more information call 897-6833.

**\* Baseball \* Softball \***

**DIAMOND DUST**

## \*\* BASEBALL \*\*

Kinston JV Bulldogs sweep past Ariton 7-6, 8-7

The Kinston Bulldog junior varsity swept a double-header from the Ariton Purple Cats last week as they tamed the 'Cats 7-6 and 8-7. Erick Odum notched the win in the opener for Kinston, while Nick Weeks had 2 hits and John McNeil had a triple and an RBI. In the second game, Matt Whigham got the game winning hit and A.J. Johnson was the winning pitcher.

New Brockton Gamecocks spank Goshen 7-2

Heath Parker tossed a 4-hitter and struck out 16 batters to spark the New Brockton Gamecocks to a 7-2 win over the Goshen Eagles, last Tuesday afternoon in New Brockton. Parker also shined at the plate for the Gamecocks as he collected 3 hits with two doubles and 3 RBIs, while Tanner Medley and Stephen Hines also had key RBIs.

New Brockton JV slip past Zion Chapel 8-7

The New Brockton junior varsity slipped past county rival Zion Chapel 8-7 Friday afternoon in an exciting contest. Hayden Smith had 2 hits and 3 RBIs to lead the Gamecocks at the plate, while Nathan Foster was the winning pitcher.

Kinston Bulldogs sneak past Samson 4-2

The Kinston Bulldogs claimed a big early-season win Saturday afternoon by defeating the Samson Tigers 4-2. Cole Meeks allowed one run in getting the win, while Garrett Parker and Meeks both added 2 hits and both drove in two runs.



Elba JV Lady Tiger Kayla Rials slides into second in last week's season opener against Andalusia. Rials was called out on a close call, but the final score wasn't as close as the Lady Tigers fell to the Lady Bulldogs 19-0.

## Elba JV suffer 19-0 four inning pounding

The Elba Lady Tiger junior varsity opened its softball season last Monday afternoon in Elba with a 19-0 loss to the Andalusia Lady Bulldogs.

Andalusia combined one hit with four walks in the top of the first inning to grab an early 2-0 lead, then blew the game open in the third as the Lady Bulldogs combined seven hits with two walks and six errors to score 12 runs as they pulled out to a 14-0 advantage. The Lady Bulldogs continued to light up the scoreboard in the fourth inning and added five runs, with the key hit being a grand-slam home-run.

The Lady Tigers managed only one base-runner in the four inning contest, with that coming in the second inning on a single up the middle by Britany Caldwell.

Brandy Caldwell pitched all four innings for the Lady Tigers and allowed nine hits and nine walks, while striking out one batter.

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## Coaches needed

Coaches are needed for the upcoming youth baseball and softball seasons, in Elba. Teams will be organized in leagues for both boys and girls, with age divisions being (Boys) 3-5, 6-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14, 15-16 and 17-18, and (Girls) 3-5, 6-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-15 and 16-18.

Anyone wishing to coach or be an assistant coach should contact the Elba Department of Parks and Recreation at 897-6833.



Elba Lady Tiger Stephanie Baxley prepares to fire a pitch toward the plate. Baxley allowed only 3 hits and struck out 14 batters in Elba's 3-0 loss to Andalusia.

## Elba JV Tigers open baseball season with split against Ariton

The Elba Tiger junior varsity baseball team opened its season last week in Ariton and split a double-header with the Ariton Purple Cats to end the opening day's action with a 1-1 record.

The Tigers dropped the opener 9-5 as Ariton's Mason Stephens struck out 12 batters to lead the Purple Cats to the win. Justin McLaughlin had 3 hits and knocked in 3 runs to lead Elba at the plate, while Bradley Wilson and Dylan McCollough both added 2 hits.

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## CCC

(Continued from Page One)

zation to hold wrestling events at the farm center. He said the show presented by his company is a family-based promotion. He also assured commissioners his company would pay for any damages that might occur, however, he said there had never been any trouble in the past with his event.

Commissioners had tabled the issue to allow time to get references from other venues.

During Monday's meeting, county administrator Wilson Mobley said the only other place he found to be familiar with the company was the Houston County Farm Center. He said officials from Houston County said the company left owing money and still had not paid, as of last week, for destruction of tables and chairs.

"I would recommend you not allow them to use the farm center," Mobley said. "This is the same type problem we've had in the past."

Commissioners unanimously voted to reject Lawson application for use of the farm center.

In other business, commissioners:

\* Approved a motion giving county engineer Randy Tindell permission to purchase a used steel wheel roller off the state surplus lot for \$16,800.

\* Approved five appointments to the Coffee County Water Authority board including: Mack Westbrook, representing District One; Hayward Meek, representing District Four; Mix Andrews, representing District Five; Donnie

Hussey, representing District Six; and Hubert L. Martin, representing District Seven.

\* Approved a motion awarding a bid to Freightliner of Southern Alabama for the purchase of a Ready-Built Roll-Off Truck for \$108,825. Also approved a bid for Roll-Off Containers from Florida Can at \$2,200 for 10 yd and \$3,990 for 40 yd, and approved a bid for Roll-Off Containers from RUDCO South at \$2,955 for 20 yd and \$3,155 for 30 yd. Commissioners rejected all bids a Roll-Off Hauler.

The next Coffee County Commission meeting will be Monday, March 14, at 9 a.m. in the community room of the county complex in New Brockton.

## IRS has \$24M for Alabamians who have not filed 2001 tax returns

Unclaimed refunds totaling more than \$24 million are awaiting about 26,700 Alabamians who failed to file an income tax return for 2001, the Internal Revenue Service announced today. However, in order to collect the money, a return must be filed with the IRS no later than April 15, 2005.

The IRS estimates that half of those who could claim refunds would receive more than \$459. In some cases, individuals had taxes withheld from their wages or made payments against their taxes out of self-employed earnings but had too little income to require filing a tax return.

"The window is closing for 2001 refunds," IRS spokesman Dan Boone said. "As soon as you send us your tax return, you'll get your money. But if you don't file, you won't get anything."

In cases where a return was not filed, the law provides most taxpayers with a three-year window of opportunity to claim a refund. If no return is filed to claim the refund within three years, the money becomes property of the U.S. Treasury. For 2001 returns, the window closes on April 15, 2005. The law requires that the return be properly addressed, postmarked and mailed by that date. There is no penalty assessed by the IRS for filing a late return qualifying for a refund.

The IRS reminds taxpayers seeking a 2001 refund that their checks will be held if they have not filed tax returns for 2002 or 2003. In addition, the refund will be applied to any amounts still owed to the IRS and may be used to satisfy unpaid child support or past due federal debts such as student loans.

Some of these taxpayers may also be eligible for the refundable Earned Income Tax Credit. Generally, individuals qualified for the EITC in 2001 if they earned less than \$32,121 and had two or more qualifying children living with them, earned less than \$28,281 with one qualifying child or earned less than \$10,710 with no qualifying child.

Current and prior year tax forms are available on the IRS Web site ([www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)) or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676). Taxpayers who need help may also call the IRS help line at 1-800-829-1040.

## New emergency preparedness guide available for homeowners

A new nine-page emergency preparedness guide for homeowners was recently unveiled in Washington, D.C. The guide is the latest effort by Homeland Security's Ready campaign to encourage Americans to prepare for potential terrorist attacks and emergencies.

Ready and its Spanish language version Listo asks individuals to do three things — get an emergency supply kit, make a family emergency plan and be informed about the different types of emergencies that could occur and their appropriate responses.

The nine-page guide, prepared by the Homeownership Alliance in partnership with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, outlines specific steps homeowners can take to prepare themselves, their families and their homes for any possible emergency, whether it be a natural disaster or some other threat to safety and security.

The plan is divided into three sections — emergency supplies, emergency planning and specific threats.

The emergency supplies section discusses general supplies, water, food, air and first aid. The emergency planning section discusses how to develop a family communications plan; the importance of working together, what to do in a house or apartment building or in a work, school or daycare setting; whether to stay or leave the building; how to seal a room if you stay; and steps to take if get away. The communications plan also includes a worksheet with vital information on each member of the family and pets, as well as contact information on physicians, veterinarians, medical and home insurance policies, just to name a few.

The guide also outlines four types of terrorist threats or situations and what to do in each situation.

Local offices of the National Association of Realtors are distributing copies of the guide to new homeowners in closing day materials and the Homeownership Alliance is providing Habitat for Humanity International with copies for its new homeowners.

The guide is also available online at <http://www.homeownershipalliance.com> or at [www.aees.edu/edu/](http://www.aees.edu/edu/).

The Homeownership Alliance is a coalition of more than 15 organizations committed to ensuring support for the American housing system.

"We understand what they're (department of transportation officials) doing, but we want them to understand what we want and need," said Cole. "We need 84."

Holley said he shared the desire to open Hwy. 84 as much as possible adhering to specific federal guidelines, and he said DOT officials continue to look at the plan and make changes.

He said he believes the current road plan will have six entrances off the bypass leading into the downtown area of New Brockton, and each and every one of the entrances will have signs pointing to that area. Also, he said the Shiloh end of the road was changed just last week from a stop sign to a yield intersection.

"We don't want to be cut off from other towns," Mayor Charles Cole said. "All we're asking, point blank, is to keep (Hwy.) 84 open."

He said the officials and citizens of New Brockton want the current Hwy. 84 road to be kept open as an alternate or business route once the new 84 bypass is completed. An updated plan for the road project now calls for portions of the current road to be removed on each end of New Brockton after the bypass is implemented.

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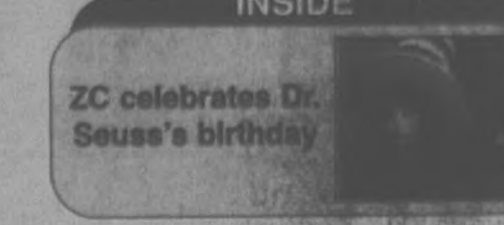
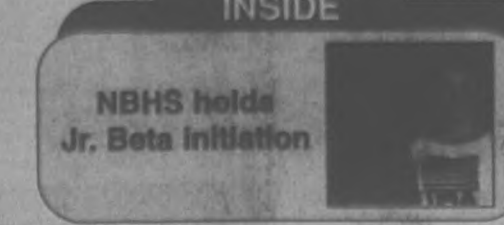
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# The Elba Clipper

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Elba, Alabama

Thursday, March 10, 2005

1 Section, 14 Pages Plus 1 Adv. Insert

Second Town Hall Meeting planned for Monday, March 14, at 2 p.m.

## New Brockton holds Town Hall meeting with Sen. Jimmy Holley and Rep. Terry Spicer

by Linda Hodge, Editor

New Brockton officials and citizens continued their battle Monday afternoon, March 7, to keep Highway 84 open as an alternate route by holding a Town Hall Meeting with Senator Jimmy Holley and Representative Terry Spicer.

"We don't want to be cut off from other towns," Mayor Charles Cole said. "All we're asking, point blank, is to keep (Hwy.) 84 open."

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Alma Haynes wondered if Holley and Spicer could find out exactly when the plan changed. "Going back to find out when the change took place won't help us," Mayor Cole insisted. "We're concerned about now and what we can do to keep the road open."

Ted Fillingim, transportation supervisor for the Coffee County School System, said his main concern is transporting students. He said it is going to be dangerous every time a bus driver has to stop and cross lanes.

"All I'm asking you to do to help us is to continue to have that existing road open," resident Jim Driskell said.

Cole said the district manager from the DOT office in Troy had visited with town officials and

monthly council meeting to resolving questions regarding Trudy Street.

"I for one didn't know where Trudy Street was until today," Mayor Charles Cole said.

The mayor said he thought he had driven the road one day last week only to find out he wasn't even on the right road.

However, he said a group of officials looked at the road Monday afternoon and all now have a better understanding of the condition of the road.

Trudy Street currently divides property of Wooten Chapel Assembly of God Church, and Rev. Mike Medley recently asked the council to define the exact right-of-way and flow of traffic of the road. The church hoping to build a new facility on it's property and needs the questions regarding Trudy Street answered.

"Now we can look more closely at what we need to do now that we know exactly where it's (Trudy Street) at," Cole said.

He suggested the council work closely with Medley to find the best solution for everyone involved.

"We want something that will be beneficial to New Brockton,"

County BOE awards financing proposal to The Peoples Bank of Coffee County

3, when board members awarded a financing proposal.

Board members voted during the February board meeting to solicit financing proposals for the re-roofing and renovation projects at New Brockton High School and New Brockton Elementary School.

The school system will borrow \$1 million for the capital projects.

Proposals were submitted from six local banks including Community Bank and Trust, Enterprise, Regions Bank, Enterprise, Colonial Bank, Enterprise, The Peoples Bank of Coffee County, Elba, The Citizens Bank, Enterprise, and SouthTrust Bank of Elba.

Superintendent Dr. Linda Ingram said The Peoples Bank of Coffee County, Elba, submitted the low proposal for the fixed percentage rate at 2.93 percent. She recommended the proposal be awarded to The Peoples Bank, and board members voted unanimously to do that.

Ingram presented board members with a proposed school calendar for the 2005-06 school year. She said it is basically the same as it has been in the past. School will begin Aug. 2nd with an in-service and students will return on Aug. 3rd.

Ingram said the state superintendent

Please See BOE, Page 14

Area Happenings

THE SOUTHEAST ALABAMA PHARMACEUTICALS ASSOCIATION will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, March 10, at the Coffee County Farm Center. For more information, contact Elizabeth Whitaker at 334-694-2077 or Claudia Jones at 334-508-9724.

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL AND NURSING HOME will hold meetings of the Elba Pre-Post Graduate Nurses Group each Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Hospital Conference Room. For more information, contact Cathy Mayberry CPM, CRRP at 334-697-2232, Ext. 200, or 334-508-9724.

WESTERN BAPTIST CHURCH BAPTIST UNION will hold its annual membership meeting at the church, Sunday, March 27, beginning at 8 a.m. The meeting will address the activities of the church and its ministries, and the services and benevolence.

A GROWING BUSINESS...The Elba Chamber of Commerce hosted a ribbon cutting ceremony last Thursday, March 3, for a new division of Southeast Pharmaceuticals Inc. The new division, Southeast Pharmaceuticals Vital Care, will provide IV medications in the home setting as prescribed by a physician. Persons of all ages can benefit from home infusion service as it allows patients to have their treatments in the comfort of their home. Those present for the ribbon cutting ceremony included (from left): Miss Elba Lyndsay Lawford, Sam Cooper, Tonya Jones, Ken Bartlett, Lucia Grantham, Ramona Grantham, Future Little Miss Elba Madelyn Kelley, Verbie Herring, Dee Wiggins, Brittany Hudson, Cathy Ramsey, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Jason Holley, George Taylor, Julie Holley, John Holley, Little Miss Elba Emilee Hudson, Mary Holley, Barry Giles, Elizabeth Cochran, Herby McCall, Doris Matthews, Junior Miss Elba Kendall Stinson and Kaye Whitworth.



A close up view of the design created by John Dean of Leathers and Associates for the Elba playground. Community involvement will be key in creating this playground. Currently, individual citizens and organizations are working to raise funds for the playground.

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## Ferrin Cox elected president of Alabama Press Association for 2005

Ferrin Cox, publisher of The Elba Clipper, has been elected president of the Alabama Press Association.

Cox succeeds Ben Shurett, publisher and editor of The Fort Payne Times-Journal. He was elected Sunday during APA's 134th annual Winter Convention in Tuscaloosa.

Other new officers include Carol Pappas, publisher and editor of The Daily Home in Talladega, first vice president and Bo Bolton, publisher of The Monroe Journal in Monroeville, second vice president.

Cox, a native of Florida, began his newspaper career in 1962 selling advertising for the Florida News and The Elba Clipper. As a child, he spent many many hours in and around newspaper offices under the feet of two generations of his family.

Cox purchased The Elba Clipper in 1971 from his aunt, Lucille Woodham McRae, becoming the youngest newspaper owner in the state at the time. In 1982, he purchased The Graceville News in Graceville, Fla.

Cox currently serves as president and publisher of both newspapers with the assistance of his wife of over 40 years, Hedy.

His service to APA includes several terms on the APA board and on the executive committee. He is a long time member of the Legislative Committee and the Member Services Committee.

He and Hedy have three adult children.

Bob Gruber, publisher of the TimesDaily in Florence; Roger Quinn, publisher of The Gadsden Times; Victor Hanson III, publisher of The Birmingham News; Glenda Carl, general manager of The Wilcox Progressive Era in

Camden; Alan Davis, vice president of sales - Alabama for Media General; and Jack Smith, editor of The Eufaula Tribune were elected to a second two-year term.

Members remaining on the board are: Tim Thompson, publisher of The Tuscaloosa News; Ed Darling, editor and publisher of The Cullman Times; Troy Turner, executive editor of The Anniston Star; Scott M. Brown, publisher of the Montgomery Advertiser; Joe Thomas, editor and publisher of The Tri-City Ledger in Florence; and Willie Gray, publisher of the Citronelle Call-News.

The APA Journalism Foundation elected Mike Marshall, editor of the Mobile Register, as its new president.

Please See APA, Page 14

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Mayor Charles Cole (standing) and Rep. Terry Spicer (seated, right) listen as Senator Jimmy Holley (center) speaks during the Town Hall meeting held Monday afternoon, March 7, at the New Brockton Senior Citizens center. A large crowd of citizens attending the meeting to express concerns regarding the current Hwy. 84 project plan. Before concluding Monday's meeting, everyone agreed to a second meeting next Monday, March 14, at 2 p.m., at the senior center. Holley and Spicer said they would ask the Department of Transportation to have a representative(s) at that meeting.

## Drawings approved for New Brockton's downtown sidewalk paving project

by Linda Hodge, Editor

Although no official action has been taken, the New Brockton Town Council moved one step closer Monday evening, March 7, during the

monthly council meeting to resolving questions regarding Trudy Street.

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